

REMARKS

Claims 52-62, 64, 65, 68 and 72-75 are being examined. Claims 66-67, 69-71 and 76-77 are withdrawn from consideration. Claim 52 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 63 and claim 63 has been cancelled. New claim 78 based on the previous version of claim 52 has been added.

The certified copy of Russian application 2001120905 and an English translation of the application were received by the US PTO on July 21, 2004 as shown by PAIR.

For the reasons explained in the previous response, the claims are not anticipated by Vasiliskov and Rehman. However, to expedite prosecution, the subject matter of claim 63 has been incorporated into claim 52. In view of the amendment of claim 52 to include the subject matter of claim 63, it is respectfully requested that the rejections over Vasiliskov and Rehman be withdrawn.

The rejections under 35 USC 103 based on the combination of either of Vasiliskov and Rehman and Solomon is traversed.

Solomon does not teach a biochip comprising an array of gel cells formed on a substrate by copolymerization of composition K, wherein,

$$K = aA + bB + cC + dD + eE \text{ wherein}$$

A is a monomer based on derivatives of acrylic and methacrylic acids;

B is a water soluble cross-linking agent;

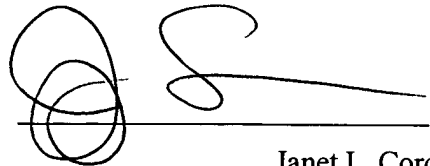
C is a biological modified macromolecule bearing an unsaturated group. Specifically Solomon does not teach a composition K that includes a biological modified macromolecule. The disclosure of proteins and DNA markers in example 9 is limited to testing them in a gel not including them in the substrate.

Therefore, it is not obvious and there is no reasonable expectation of success that the crosslinking agents disclosed in Solomon can be used with biological modified macromolecules.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that these rejections be withdrawn.

If any additional fees are due, they may be charged to deposit account 12-0425.

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'J' followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish.

Janet I . Cord

Ladas & Parry LLP

26 West 61st Street

New York, New York 10023

212-708-1935

Reg No. 33, 778